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THE

PREFACE.

THE *kind Reception the* Univerſal Magazine *has met with from the Public, and the conſiderable Aſſiſtance we have received from our friendly Correſpondents, demand our moſt grateful Acknowledgments. This uncommon Succeſs, has excited us to uſe our utmoſt Endeavours, that nothing which tended to Improvement ſhould be omitted; nor has any Expence been ſpared, to make this Performance, conformable to its Title,* A Magazine of Knowledge and Pleaſure.

AND as the beſt Method of ſhewing our Gratitude to the Public, is to render the Work worthy of their Acceptance, we propoſe, among a great Variety of other curious Articles, to give a compendious Syſtem of Natural Hiſtory, illuſtrated with Copper-Plates of the moſt curious Animals, Vegetables, and Minerals, in their natural Colours. The prodigious Expence attending this Undertaking, will, we preſume, abundantly convince the Public, that nothing ſhall deter us from rendering our Magazine *as uſeful as poſſible.*

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PREFACE.

IT would be ſuperfluous to recommend the Study of Nature, who through all her Works, has blended Pleaſure and Inſtruction. Every Object around us, from the largeſt, to the moſt minute, make us acquainted with ſome Truth. Their Conſtitution teaches us ſomething, and their Determination to ſome End, points out the Intention of the beneficient Creator. Their Relations to us call aloud for our Attention, and their ſilent Lectures enrich our Minds with Truth, and warm our Hearts with Gratitude. Nature alone comprehends at once the Objects of every Science, nor are her Inſtructions confined to any particular Language or People. Here is an ample Field of inſtructive Exerciſes for the Mind. Every new Information is an additional Pleaſure; our Riches increaſe with our Diſcoveries, and the View of ſo many Benefactions muſt needs baniſh from our Breaſts Indifference and Ingratitude.

THE